

## **ELECTRONIC MAIL CONTROL SYSTEM**

### Abstract

An electronic mail system provides one or more approvers with approval  
5 authority over electronic mail of a user. The approvers have the opportunity to approve  
an incoming electronic mail message before the message is delivered to the user, and  
have the opportunity to approve an outgoing electronic mail message by the user before  
the message is sent to its intended recipient. Messages can be approved or rejected  
automatically, using filters, or through actions by an approver. Rejected incoming  
10 messages are not delivered to the user. Rejected outgoing messages are not sent to the  
intended recipient. Mail to be approved can be synchronized for consistency among  
multiple approvers. The user whose mail is to be approved can access the mail from  
multiple locations, with the mail at each location synchronized to appear in the same  
folders.

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